



# San Diego City Attorney **CASEY GWINN**

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## **MEDIA RELEASE**

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## **San Diego "Prosecutor of the Year" To Be Announced at City Council Meeting Today - 10 AM**

San Diego City Attorney Casey Gwinn today announced that Deputy City Attorney Joan Dawson is the 1998 Prosecutor of the Year in the City of San Diego.

The annual award recognized excellence in the handling of criminal cases, working with the community, and partnering with law enforcement. Nominations were received from throughout the community.

Joan Dawson is the founding prosecutor of San Diego's nationally recognized Drug Court. She is also part of the City Attorney's Neighborhood Prosecution team which specially prosecutes problem oriented policing project cases ranging from sex crimes in the parks to drag racing in residential communities. She has successfully prosecuted difficult cases with mentally ill street criminals and chronic drunks.

"Joan Dawson exemplifies what law enforcement is doing right in San Diego," said Gwinn. "She is tireless in her efforts to work with crime victims, help police officers, and motivate others to make a difference," said City Attorney Casey Gwinn. "We talk a lot in the City Attorney's Office about how misdemeanor prosecution can save lives and ultimately change the world. Joan Dawson has without question helped to save lives and, in small and large ways, helped to change the world."

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